

Family Development and Self-Sufficiency (FaDSS) Council

DRAFT Meeting Minutes

March 25, 2021

11:00 A.M.

Meeting Held Google Meet

Council Members Present	Council Members Absent
Patricia (PJ) West – Department of Public Health - Chairperson	Stephanie Stebens -Citizen Representative – Vice Chairperson
Billie Marchik – University of Iowa	Shawna Johansen – Business Representative
Dr. Anthony Santiago-Iowa State University	
Bill Brand – Department of Human Rights	
Dr. Michael Fleming – University of Northern Iowa	
Alison Sidwell – Iowa Workforce Development	
Zebulon Beilke-McCallum – Domestic Violence Representative	
Nicole Berensmann – Citizen Representative	
Paige Buchanan – Department of Human Services	
Monica Garner – Department of Education	
Ex-Officio Members Present	Ex-Officio Members Absent
Senator Claire Celsi	Rep. Marti Anderson
	Senator Jim Carlin
	Rep. Anne Osmundson
FaDSS Council Staff Present	FaDSS Council Staff Absent
Lorie Easter - Department of Human Rights	Angela Madison—Dept. of Human Services
Page Eastin – Department of Human Rights	
Donna Bura - Department of Human Rights	
Others Present	
Mindy Williamson – WCCA	Nicole Griesse - NEICAC
Mindy Clayton - MICA	Doug Stodgel- Polk County
Jenn Dykshoorn - LSI	Laura Benson – Mid-Sioux Opportunity
Katie Christensen - MATURA	Mindy Dolan – Operation Threshold
Alisa Schlieff - UDMO	Danna Buls - MATURA
Kelly Welding - CAEI	Julie Weber Davis – Four Oaks
Joy Szewczyk - CASEI	Peg Ranger - YSS
Lori Brandt - NICA0	Brian Dunn - Sieda
Wendy Mueller - WCCA	Cathy Jager - WCCA
Sarah Nelson – WCCA	Shellie West - WCCA
Janet Hamlin - WCCA	Eudora Beckley

Introductions

- PJ West, Chairperson, called meeting to order at 11:01 a.m.
- Quorum was established.

Approval of Agenda – PJ West, Chairperson

Motion:

Zeb Beilke-McCallum moved that the agenda be approved. Dr. Michael Fleming seconded the motion.

Vote:

All council members voted aye. The agenda was approved.

Approval of November 19, 2020 Council Minutes – PJ West, Chairperson

Motion:

Dr. Anthony Santiago moved that the agenda be approved. Monica Garner seconded the motion.

Vote:

All council members voted aye. The minutes of November 19, 2020 were approved.

Council Representatives' Updates – All Members

Monica Garner introduced herself to the Council. She is with the Department of Education and represents the Iowa Head Start State Collaboration Office Director. She is happy to be serving on the FaDSS Council.

Bill Brand updated the council about the Department of Human Rights working with the Governor's Office to make sure that underrepresented and underserved populations have access to information about Covid-19 Vaccines and have opportunities to get them. We have been working on outreach efforts and we want to make sure the families we serves in the FaDSS program have the information and ability to overcome barriers if they choose to get the vaccine.

IFDA Update – Julie Weber Davis – Four Oaks

Julie updated the Council about the FaDSS virtual day on the hill. The Iowa Family Development Alliance sent emails with information and data to share about the FaDSS Program. They shared a video that had a FaDSS family story and had positive responses from legislators. They will continue to encourage FaDSS grantees to reach out to legislators about the FaDSS budget concerns for the next fiscal year and the great work the program does with families.

Implementation Report/Coaching Evaluation – Lorie Easter

Lorie introduced Quinn Moore, Program Manager from Mathematica, who worked with the FaDSS Program during the Mathematica Study. Quinn thanked everyone from the DCAA and all the grantees who helped and provided a lot of work and dedication to this study. Quinn gave an overview of the implementation study. The study was conducted to evaluate employment coaching with goal setting strategies. Karen Gardner shared the data resources and participant information for the implementation study. Karen also shared information received from FaDSS Specialists about contact with participants, home visits, and goal setting strategies. Due to Covid-19, home visits changed to virtual visits in March 2020 and data was shared about that implementation change. Kristen Joyce shared information gained from FaDSS participants about FaDSS Specialists, employment goals, and helpful resource referrals.

Senator Celsi thanked Mathematic for their presentation. She shared that her mom was a FaDSS Specialist and how much the FaDSS Program means to her. PJ West commented that this presentation is proof about the power of the program. Her favorite part of the presentation was the comments from the participants. Bill Brand thanked the grantees for all the time and hard work they put in to be a part of this study that captures the trust between FaDSS Specialists and the participants. He is happy that findings reflects the success of the implementation of the FaDSS Program. Zeb asked if we have a timeline for the Impact Study. Quinn replied that data has been collected for the impact analysis. It should be released publicly by the beginning of 2022. Michael asked how the information will be shared and disseminated to others. He would like the information to be seen by stakeholders.

Committee Work

- Nomination Committee – Zeb Beilke-McCallum informed the Council that the Nomination Committee met February 19th and reviewed the nomination of Eudora Beckley for Citizen Representative on the FaDSS Council. The Nominations committee recommends that the FaDSS Council approve the membership of Eudora Beckley for a three-year term as a citizen representative. Her term will begin March 2021.

Vote:

All council members voted aye. The recommendation was approved.

- Grant Review Committee – PJ West updated the Council about the activities of the Grant Review Committee. At the last Council meeting, the Grant Review Committee was given the task to explore alterations to the existing FaDSS grantee service areas to align funding with need. PJ shared a draft of a detailed timeline for the work of the Committee and Council. The Committee wants input from all stakeholders and experts that will help determine alterations with the least amount of disruption for grantees.

Covid-19 Updates – Lorie Easter

Lorie Easter gave an update to the Council about the FaDSS Program in relation to Covid-19. FaDSS continues to be status quo with the policy and procedures that were put in place in March 2020. Many staff or their families have been affected by COVID -19. We continue to do virtual visits and do not see this changing any time soon. We appreciate all of the work the grantees continue to do to provide services to families.

Trainings – Page Eastin

Page Eastin gave an update to the Council about training initiatives. FaDSS has prepared a 90 minute work preparedness training to provide career exploration and assessment tools to specialists that they can utilize with families. We are also offering a two-hour training on serving families with disabilities. The training includes an overview of the social security disability process, disability etiquette and employment resources specific to people with disabilities.

Spark Project – Page Eastin

Page Eastin shared the work FaDSS is doing with exploring virtual visits. We are participating in an Office of Planning Research and Evaluation (OPRE) funded program called SPARK. DCAA staff started working with the SPARK team in January to define the role of virtual visits after we return to in person visits with families. We are using the Learn Innovate Implement model and gathering input from specialists,

coordinators and families who have participated in the program to inform future policies around the role of virtual visits.

Other Business – All Staff

Lorie Easter shared that the next FaDSS Council Orientation will be next Friday from 9-10:30 am.

Senator Celsi asked about relationships between FaDSS and PROMISE JOBS. Lorie replied that 90% of FaDSS participants have to receive FIP to be eligible for the program. It is part of the TANF State Plan. The FaDSS funding is through the Department of Human Services and is transferred to the Department of Human Rights to administer the program.

Adjournment – PJ West

Motion:

Dr. Michael Fleming motioned for the meeting to adjourn and Zeb Beilke-McCallum seconded the motion.

Vote:

All Council members voted aye. The meeting adjourned at 12:25 pm.